

CLASS OF 1817

DAVID F. BARSTOW

The subject of this sketch was born in Litchfield County, Conn., November 6, 1796. He remained at home with his father, who was a farmer, until he was fifteen years of age, and during these years had received a good English education. He early in life conceived the idea of leading a professional life, and his natural literary tastes began to develop while he was quite young.

At the age of fifteen he entered Williams College, where he remained one year in a preparatory course. He then entered Union College from which he graduated in the year 1817. He began the study of law in Albany, N. Y., and in the year 1821 was admitted to the practice in the supreme courts of the State.

In the year 1824, he came to the village of Towanda, Pa., and entered upon the practice of his profession where he resided until his death, April 30, 1859.

Mr. Barstow was held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen, and was honored by them with various offices of responsibility and trust at home, and for two terms was the county's representative in the State Legislature. Every duty placed upon him by his constituents was performed with integrity, and honor to himself and those whom he represented.

As an attorney and counsellor-at-law he was among the foremost of the bar of his county and State. Possessing a naturally strong mind, strengthened by a good classical education, as an advocate his opinions were listened to with the greatest deference and respect. He was a plain, unassuming man, void of concealment or disguise in the expression of his views, giving his opinions from honest and well-considered conviction. Not satisfied with the education of his younger days, he was a constant student of literature, and spent much time in literary research.

His attachment to home and family was a leading trait of character, and there his social and genial qualities were sunbeams of his life. He was an active, pious, and devoted member of the Episcopal church and stood prominent in its councils, and was a ready supporter of both church and school interests.

In the year 1841, November 10, he married Miss Amelia A., daughter of Col. Hiram and Elizabeth Mix, of Towanda. Her father was a native of Hudson, N. Y., and of New England descent. To Mr. and Mrs. Barstow were born three children,-- David Henry, Henrietta, and Caroline A. Barstow; all are living. The widow and mother is a lady of rare intellectual qualities, devoted to the best interests of society, to the Episcopal church of which she is a member, and especially to her children.

FROM History of Bradford Co., Pa.
D. Graft
L. H. Everts & Co.
Philadelphia 1878

pp 399-400

class
1817

To

of the Class that graduated at Union College, in the year 18

(or, if deceased, to the friend or relative who knew him best :)

SIR,—

It is the aim of the subscriber, in collecting the information asked for by the following questions, to obtain materials for a concise Biographical Catalogue of the Trustees, Presidents, Professors and Tutors of Union College;—of those who have received Honorary Degrees from it, and of all who have ever entered that Institution, whether Graduates or not.

That such a work would be interesting and useful to the Alumni, will not be denied; but whether it be practicable, will depend chiefly upon the ready aid which they shall impart. This circular will be sent to every Graduate whose residence is known, (or, if deceased, to some near connection,) and it is confidently expected that no one will neglect to return it in due time, with as full information as circumstances will allow:—some of the questions, indeed, it may not be possible to answer with certainty; others not at all: still, it is hoped that no important facts will be withheld because of their fewness.

Death has removed the twenty-four original Trustees, the first three Presidents, the early Professors and Tutors, and from eight hundred to one thousand of the Alumni of the College. Doubtless their friends and descendants will cheerfully contribute such information as may be necessary to illustrate the lives and services of the departed.

The subscriber desires every aid that may help to throw light upon the personal history of those concerned:—Obituary Notices; Biographical Sketches, Epitaphs, Funeral Sermons, Newspaper Notices of election to important offices or stations, Business Cards and Advertisements; also, copies of their Literary Works, Addresses, Sermons, Essays, Newspapers, engraved Portraits, &c.; all of which will be deposited and preserved in an Alcove of the College Library, to be set apart for "Graduates' Works."

He also requests that all future changes affecting the answers which shall be given, be made known to him from time to time:—especially the deaths of Graduates, and that the usual obituary notices or funeral sermons published on such occasions, be sent with the announcements, as it is his purpose to publish these deaths hereafter once a year.

JONATHAN PEARSON, *Librarian.*

UNION COLLEGE,
SCHENECTADY, N. Y. }

SPECIMENS OF BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES FOR THE PROPOSED CATALOGUE.

John Glidden Brown was born in Quinipick, N. Y., May 2, 1800; parents, James and Elizabeth (Glidden) Brown, who moved to Epsom, N. Y., in 1806. He was prepared for College at Helderbergh High School, under the instruction of Rev. Moses Johnson, and entered Union College Jan. 1817. He studied law with Hon. Septimus H. Smith, of Great Falls; was admitted to the bar in 1821; and commenced the practice of law in Albany, with James S. Van Hoesen, Esq. In 1830 he moved to New-York City, which, thereafter, became his residence. He was Member of N. Y. Assembly 1832-5; State Senator 1836-8; Member of Congress 1839-41; and Judge of the Superior Court 1842-6. He died June 30, 1849, of cholera, aged 49 years. Besides occasional speeches, orations and opinions, he wrote a work on constitutional law, and edited the N. Y. State Papers. He received the Degree of L. L. D. from Hamilton College in 1846.

Joseph Henshaw Luther was born in Hanover, Mass., June 1, 1798; parents, Joseph and Madeline (Henshaw) Luther; prepared for College at Yorkville Academy, John Almy, Esq., Principal; and entered Union College Sept. 1814. He taught, 1818-20, in East Philadelphia, (Penn.) High School; graduated at Princeton Theological Seminary in 1823; and was ordained Sept. 25, 1823, at Marbletown, N. Y.; and was Pastor of the 1st Congregational Church of Haseltown, Conn., 1825-30; Professor of Rhetoric in Erie College 1831-40; retired on account of ill health, and now resides in Philadelphia, Pa. He has published six sermons on various occasions; a series of lectures on Rhetoric and Belles Lettres, and the "Communicant's Companion." He received the Degree of D. D. from the Hudson University in 1842.

Thomas Pennington Radway was born Feb. 23, 1778, in Benton, N. Y.; parents, John Harmony and Mary (Pennington) Radway; was prepared for College at High Holme School, Rev. Hanover Kelton, Principal; entered Union College Sept. 1795; taught a few months in Suncook, Mass., in 1799; studied medicine with Dr. Jonas Physic and Dr. Abram Potecar, of Camerville; attended medical lectures at the College of Surgeons and Physicians, and was admitted to, and commenced the practice of medicine in La Rhine, in 1806. He was Surgeon in the Army 1813-15, and returned to practice at Oldbury in 1815, where he has since resided. He lectured in the Fairhaven Medical School on Anatomy and Physiology, 1830-5, and has published several articles in the New-York Medical Review, and two larger works on the "Functions of the Brain," and on "Gunshot Wounds."

- N. B. 1. Let the answers to the following questions be as full and *authentic* as possible; but when doubtful let them be marked thus (?).
2. When the person is deceased let some near relative or friend fill out the blanks to the best of his knowledge; if he have but *one fact*, let that be sent.
3. Let as much time be taken as may be found necessary for this purpose, and no more.
4. In case this sheet be not sufficient to contain all the facts to be sent, add another of the *same size*, if possible, leaving an inner margin of not less than one inch for binding.
5. In cases where no answers to this circular shall be returned, the editor will be obliged to publish such names without any biographical notices, or to rely upon information, gathered from other sources, and, therefore, not always authentic.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE FOREGOING SKETCHES.

1. Name. David Foster Barstow

(Let this be written plainly and the *middle* names in full.)

II. Names of both Parents : thus :—

(John and Elizabeth (Smith) Johnson.)

Allen and Olive (sister) Barstow

III. Birth Place. Sharon Conn.

Birth Day and Year.

Nov. 6. 1795

IV. Various residences and dates; thus:—

IV. Various residences and dates; thus :—
[Pittsfield, Mass., 1814-18; Albany, N. Y., 1824-30; New York City, 1830-34;
Sharon Conn., till spring of 1831, *Canaan*
of 1818, *Hudson Col.*, Co A4, till spring of 1829, since then
Towanda Bradford Co., Penn.^a, where I now reside.

V. At what Academy or Academies prepared for College, with Principals and dates; thus:—
[Albany Academy, Benjamin Allen, L.L.D., 1812-17.] *Academy. Mrs. C.*

At New Lebanon

[Albany Academy, Benjamin Allen, L.L.D., 1912-17]
*Lenox Academy, Chap. Mr. Glas, on Principal, - Index at the
 New Lenox Academy from the winter of 1813 to the spring of 1814
 at Lenox from that time till Sept 1814*

VI. At Wint College he graduated, and when — from Sept 1844 "he was at Williams College having ~~just~~ ^{been} graduated the sophomore class, two terms. In the spring of 1845 he came to Union, at the ~~beginning~~ ^{beginning} of the last term of the sophomore class, and graduated.

VII. The occupation he followed after leaving college before studying theology; thus: — three weeks 1847

[Teaching, Washington, D. C., 1897-99, or Merchant's Clerk, New York City, 1900-51.]
 Sample school at Panama 4 or 5 months in the fall & winter
 after leaving college

VIII. The profession he studied; where; with whom; when; thus:—
Studied law in the summer
of 1811
 [Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1822-5; or Law in Albany, N.Y. with Hon. Harmanus Roeker, 1846-50.]

[Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, 1820-8, or Law in Albany, N. Y., with Hon. Harmanus Bleecker, 1806-40] *Fall of 1817*
with John H. Paine at Schenectady. In the spring of 1818
descended into

IX. Where he has practiced his profession, with dates ; and in case he be a clergyman, mention the denomination to which he belongs ; thus :—

[Epis., Somerville, N. J., 1907-20; Pres., Albany, N. Y., 1930-5; New-York City, 1935-54.]

X. The other occupations he has followed ; when and where ; thus :

[Merchant, Rochester, N. Y., 1829-35; or Farmer, Genesee, N. Y., 1835-54; or Manufacturer, Schenectady, N. Y., 1854-1861.]

XI. The important offices he has held, with dates; thus:—

(S surrogate of Jefferson Co., N. Y., 1839-41 and 1845-7; Member of Congress, 21st district, N. Y., 1841-44; Member of Assembly of N. Y., 1841-4, &c., &c.)

XII. The Literary or Scientific Works he has written or edited.

[Copies are solicited for the "Graduates Alcove" in Colgate Library.]

XIII. The names of his relatives who graduated at Union College.

XIV. The literary, professional, or honorary titles he received : from whence, with dates ; thus : —

[M. D., from Albany Medical College 1845; or LL. D., Amherst College, 1856, &c.]

XV. Is there an engraved portrait of him?

(One or two copies, together with his autograph, are solicited for College Library.)

XVI. The date, circumstances, and place of his death.

[Send any printed notice, biographical sketch, funeral sermon, &c. In many instances more space will be required to answer this and the three following questions, in which case add an additional sheet.]

XVII. General information respecting character, services, success, interesting passages and events in his life, &c.

XVIII. Some account of his pedigree and family ; its original seat in this or the old country, &c., &c.

XIX. List of such graduates as may not be *widely* known ; their residences, professions, dates of deaths, &c. ; the name and residence, also, of some near friend of the deceased, that further information may be sought for ; thus :—

[John Orton Smith, Banker, Chicopee, Mass., died 1848. His brother, Joseph H. Smith, resides in Springfield, Mass.]

This blank was found in a desk
in 1941 & returned here by
a great grandson - John H
Murray '22.

A native of Litchfield, Conn., who had studied law at Albany, N. Y., and was admitted to practice in 1821, came to Towanda in 1825. He was a gentleman of letters, a graduate of Union College, and began life in Towanda as a teacher. For many years he was a magistrate and did an extensive business in connection with collecting. He also practiced at the bar. Mr. Barstow was a man held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen and was honored by them with various local offices of responsibility and trust, and served the county in the lower branch of the State Legislature from 1838 to 1840. He was an active, pious and devoted member of the Episcopal church, and stood prominent in its councils, and was a ready supporter of both church and school interests.

Mrs. Barstow was a daughter of Colonel Hiram Mix, who yet survives him and occupies the old homestead. He died in 1859, aged 62 years. To Mr. and Mrs Barstow were born three children: David Henry, who removed to Maryland; Henrietta, the wife of Dr. T. B. Johnson, of Towanda; Caroline, who lives with her mother.

History of Towanda, Pa. 1770-1886
C. F. Haverly
Towanda, Pa.
1886

pp. 141-142

DAVID F. BARSTOW, 1817, a resident of New York City, was a member of the Philomathean Society.

Philomathean Catalogue 1830

U. A. M. April 1941

JOHN H. MURRAY, Jr. has sent the Graduate Council an old alumni record sheet of the type sent out by JONATHAN PEARSON while he was librarian. This one had been partially filled out by DAVID FOSTER BARSTOW, class of 1817. John his his great grandson, and found this record in an old desk. The diploma is framed and hanging in John's living room.

David Foster Barstow
A/B-1817

1817
David Foster Barston A.B.